

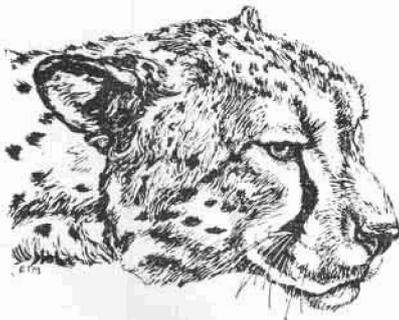
# WILD LIFE

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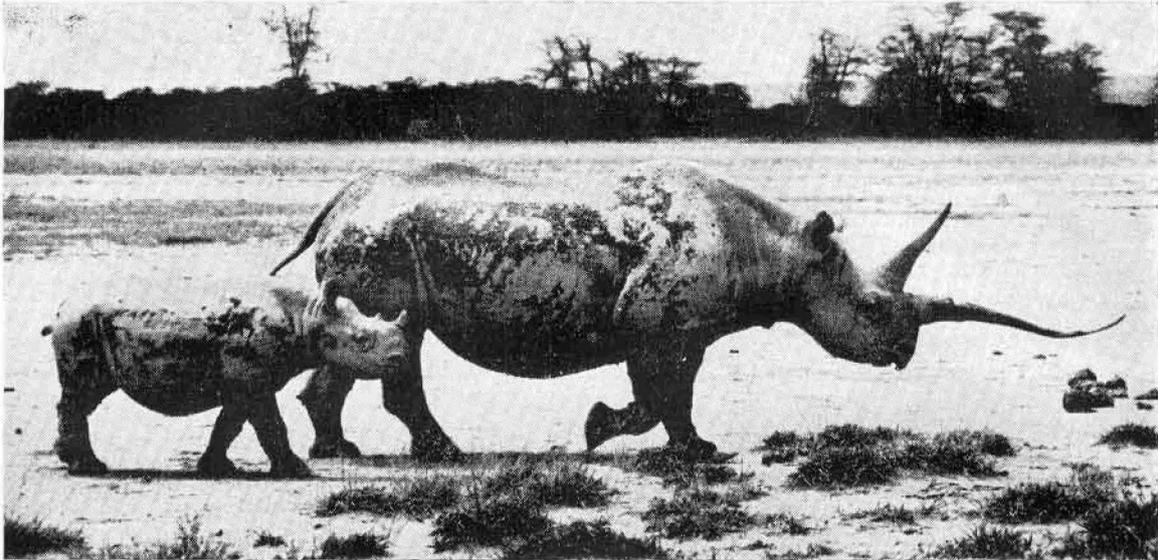
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Len Young: A.R.P.S.

"Sawa sawa mkuki ya moran."—Gertie as she used to be. . . .

## THE SAGA OF GERTIE'S HORN

AMBOSELI is unique. It can have no rival in the rest of Africa. Nowhere is it possible to see so much big game in such a small area under conditions which are ideal, and so suitable for the photographer.

The fascination of Amboseli, especially the small section known as "Ol Tukai", is that a visitor can never be sure what kind of wild animal may be seen round the next fringe of trees. The most popular residents are the rhino, and of these Gladys and her daughter Gertie, are world-famous.

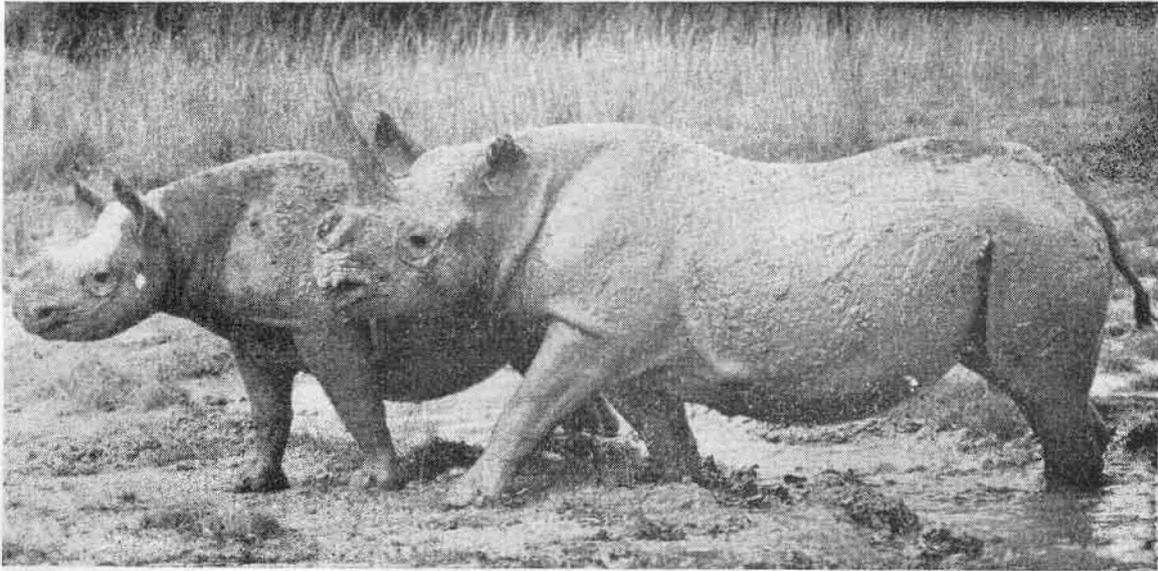
Gladys used to carry a horn longer than that of any known living rhino but some time in 1955 had the misfortune to break off nearly a foot and a half of it, thereby giving way to

Gertie who has always been known to the Rangers as "Number 2."

Gertie herself had an enormously long horn, nearly four feet in length; "sawa sawa mkuki ya moran" (like a Masai warrior's spear) was Chief Ole Kepelian's comment when Gertie saw us off one day. Chief Kepelian, I might add, is the chief of the Il Kisongo Masai, in whose area Amboseli lies.

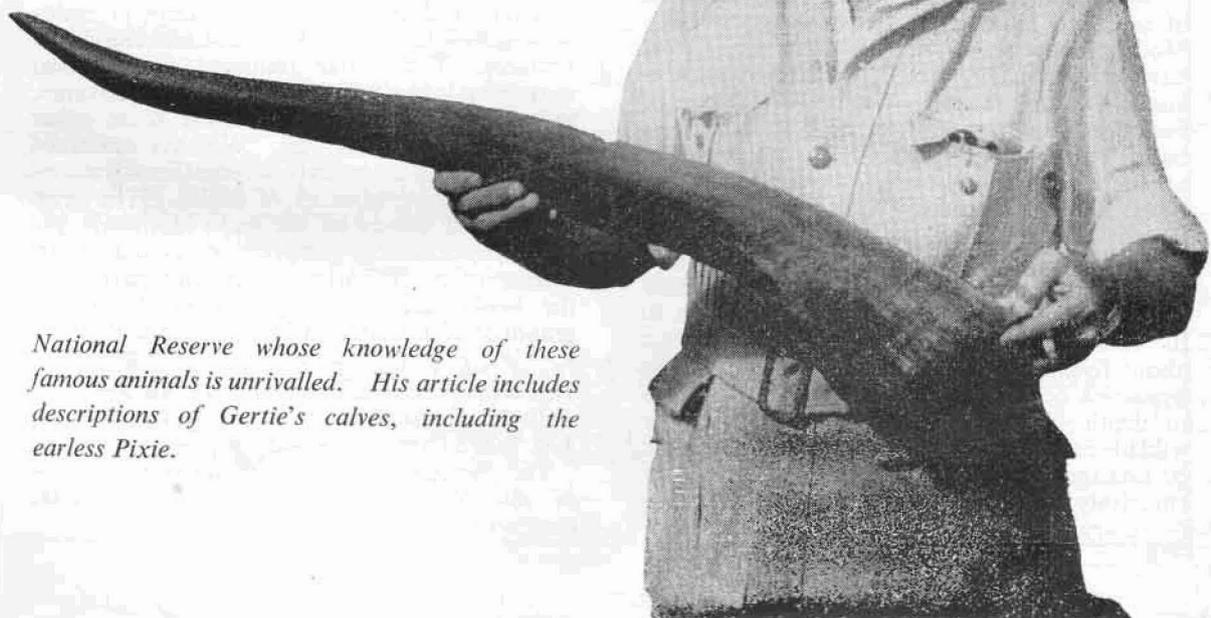
However Gladys once more reigns as supreme champion, because as readers will see from the accompanying photographs Gertie has lost her horn, possibly as a result of an argument with another rhino or a hippopotamus.

N. G. Hardy.



... and Gertie as she now is. "I hope it will grow again." Below: Major Tabs Taberer with part of Gertie's horn—the tip has not been recovered. Donald I. Ker

*The rhinos of Amboseli, in particular Gladys and Gertie, are so widely known and have so many fans that in our next issue we shall be carrying a full account of their lives and activities by Major W. H. M. Taberer, the warden of the Amboseli*



*National Reserve whose knowledge of these famous animals is unrivalled. His article includes descriptions of Gertie's calves, including the earless Pixie.*